

Mr. Young makes some good comments regarding CW being an important part of the Amateur Radio hobby. However, that fact alone does not justify CW remaining as a requirement to operate in the HF spectrum. Many other modes have been adopted that allow for experimentation and the development of technical expertise. Proven mastery of these other modes is not required in order to utilize them, let alone just to transmit on the bands. Regarding CW as being important to emergency communications. This has not been proven and in fact, at least in my area of the country, CW is rarely used in emergency exercises (except for Field Day where points are awarded); instead packet radio has become the de facto "standard". CW is a valuable skill and I would encourage anyone who loves amateur radio to learn it. I support the retention of the dedicated CW sub-bands, but call for a repeal of the Morse Code requirement on all other bands.